Hathni kund barrage

†1653. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for construction of a canal from Hathni Kund barrage to Narayan Garh, District Ambala has been received by Government from Haryana Government;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to get approval in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Detailed Project Report (DPR) for a proposal namely Ambala-Naraingarh Irrigation Scheme has been received in Central Water Commission (CWC) from Government of Haryana in November, 2007.

(b) CWC has informed that the proposal consists construction of a lined branch canal (sides lined and bed unlined) for ground water recharge off-taking from Western Jamuna Canal near Hathni Kund Barrage with a designed discharge of 84 cubic feet per second (cusec). The distribution system shall cover a gross culturable area of 1,35,627.7 hectare (ha.) and cultivable command area of 1,08,502.2 ha. of Yamuna Nagar, Ambala and Panchkula districts of Haryaya.

(c) As per CWC, the proposal has been examined and CWC's observations on various aspects such as irrigation planning, inter-state issues, hydrology, design aspect, cost aspect etc. have been sent to the project authorities for their responses.

(d) The time likely to be taken to get approval will depend upon the State Government's responses on CWC's observations.

Detection of underground water

1654. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of the mission for detection of underground water source of disappeared mythological river Saraswati;

(b) whether it is true that the satellite images have conclusively established the underground track of Saraswati; and

(c) if so, through how many States it is passing and why should the precious water resources, not be exploited to meet the growing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources has not launched any Mission for detection of underground water sources of disappeared mythological river Saraswati.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.